

**CHARTER  
FOR  
THE FEDERAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
FOR  
THE NUCLEAR COMMAND AND CONTROL SYSTEM  
END-TO-END REVIEW**

A. **Title:** Nuclear Command and Control System End-to-End Review Advisory Committee.

B. **Committee's Terms of Reference:**

- a. **Purpose:** The purpose of this Federal Advisory Committee is to assess the full range of U.S. Nuclear Command and Control System (NCCS) policies, responsibilities, functions, management structures and capabilities to meet National and Departmental/Agency policy and guidance.
- b. **Objective and Scope of Activity:** The review will examine all aspects needed to ensure the NCCS maintains the highest levels of nuclear weapons safety, security, control and reliability. The period of interest of the study will be the Present to 2020. Context of the study will include consideration of advancing technology, current and emerging threats, evolving vulnerabilities, and the restructured Nuclear Community. Objectives are to:
  - Assess the effectiveness of the current and programmed U. S. Nuclear Command and Control System (NCCS) capability to meet the dual requirements of assuring timely reliable nuclear weapons execution when authorized by the President while assuring against their unauthorized or inadvertent use.
  - Identify opportunities to enhance system effectiveness or efficiency.
  - Identify emerging issues for NCCS consideration/action.
  - Recommend cost-effective changes to guidance, management structure, NCCS oversight mechanisms and other enhancements to NCCS elements (facilities, equipment, personnel, communications and procedures).

Specific areas of examination, which support the President in his roles as Commander-in-Chief, Head of State, and Chief Executive, include:

- Positive measures to assure authorized use;
- Safeguards against unauthorized or inadvertent use;
- Supporting NCCS capabilities;

- The structure which integrates all NCCS facilities, equipment, personnel, procedures, communications essential for planning, directing and controlling nuclear weapon operations.

Focus is not intended to readdress previous force size, structure, deterrence strategy, and arms control/threat reduction analyses. Study will use as a basis, recently completed studies and analyses pertinent to the NCCS.

**C. Period of Time Estimated:** 6-8 months.

**D. Official to Whom Advisory Committee Reports:** Secretary of Defense, in his role as NCCS Executive Agent.

**E. Organization Responsible for Providing Support:** U.S. Nuclear Command and Control System Support Staff (NSS).

**F. Duties and Responsibilities:** The Federal Advisory Committee will include an Advisory Committee, consisting of a Chairperson and no more than five distinguished persons, whose diverse expertise, experience and backgrounds enable them to provide advise, opinions and assistance for recommendations on the U.S. Nuclear Command and Control System to the Secretary of Defense in his role as the NCCS Executive Agent. Working Groups chaired by senior military or civilian officials, and subordinate Study Groups will support the Advisory Committee. These Study Groups will conduct the research and analysis in their specific functional areas. The use of non-government personnel on any Working or Study Group is not anticipated.

**G. Estimated Annual Operating Costs in Dollars and Man-years:** \$350,000 including 4.1 man-years.

**H. Estimated Number and Frequency of Meetings:** Approximately 20 (two to four per month), each of one day duration, plus familiarization trips of 1-4 day duration.

**I. Termination Date:** Approximately six months, but no longer than one year from the date of this charter.

**J. Date Charter Filed:** March 21, 2003